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Ensenanza del ingles

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Teaching English

Se refiere esta circular a un manual preparado por Mr. P. G. Miller para servir de guía a los profesores americanos en la enseñanza del inglés

CC#5

3.

Circular Letter # 8

October 6, 1903.

To School Superintendents.

Gentlemen:

The following instructions are being sent you for the purpose of amplifying that part of circular letter #194, old series, with reference to classes in English in Porto Rican teachers for the school year 1902-03. The classes, in general, will be conducted on much the same plan as las year, and the examinations will be based upon the text-books assigned for study to the different grades of teachers. Whenever possible, three periods of instruction should be given each week to all Porto Rican teachers, the work being divided among the American teachers when there is more than one in each town. In this connection circular letter #194 should be read again carefully.

The examination for rural teachers will include:

1: an exercise in dictation, based on Eggleston's "A First Book in American History".

2: questions in grammar to be drawn largely from "The Mother Tongue", Book I, which will be used as the basis for language study.

3: translation from Spanish into English of an exercise based on "El Libro Segundo de Lectura" (Silver, Burdett & Company.)

4: translation from English into Spanish of an exercise of the same degree of difficulty as subject matter in Standard Third Reader.

Graded teachers will be required to study the books and cover the ground assigned to rural teachers, and in addition will be given:

1: a theme for composition writing (of not less than 200 words), based on Eggleston's "A First Book in American History".

Examination for Principals will include:

1: an exercise in dictation of the same degree of difficulty as subject matter in Standard Third Reader.

2: questions in Grammar and the use of words in English, based on the second volume of "The Mother Tongue".

3: translation from Spanish into English of an exercise on "El Libro Tercero de Lectura" (Silver, Burdett & Co.).

4: translation from English into Spanish of an exercise of the same degree of difficulty as subject matter in Standard Fourth Reader.

5: a composition in English of not less than 250 words on a topic to be selected from Thorp's "The Government of the United States and of Porto Rico". (Part I, pages 7 to 162; Part II, pages 7 to 57).

All exercises for translation will be taken from prose. In all cases where Superindentes do not have on hand books sufficient to supply the teachers of their district, requisition for some should be sent at one to the Department.

Attendance at these classes is obligatory for all Porto Rican teachers, and Superintendents will report to this Department, all teachers who do not attend regularly or who absent themselves from these classes.

The result of the examinations last year was on the whole satisfactory, but the Department hopes to note a general improvement and greater progress in the work submitted this year on the part of all the Porto Rican teachers. To this end Superintendents are requested to give special attention to these classes and make the best possible arrangement in their district whereby the ultimate aim of the Department may be accomplished - that of having a corps of teachers able and competent to teach and speak the English language with efficienty and correctness.

This examination will be held Saturday, April 30, 1904, and the following prizes will be awarded to the teachers who attain the highest standings:

A silver medal and a diploma to the teachers of each grade who rank first and second respectively in this examination. Provided two or more teacher of the same grade rank alike, each will receive a diploma or a certificate as the case may be.

Both medal and certificate will be suitably inscribed and will attest the creditable work of the teacher in the study of the English language. The standing of all teachers attaining more than 50% will be recorded on their certificates for the next year.

As announced last year, where the examinations in the judgment of the Commissioner are not of sufficient excellence, no prizes will be awarded. The same restriction, debarring teachers who have had special advantages for the study of English - as residence of a year or more in the United States - from becoming candidates for these prizes, will hold good this year. The Commissioner of Education will be the final judge in determining any case of this nature.

Yours respectfully,

Samuel M. Lindsay

Commissioner of Education

Dictated by L. R. S.

H. E. H. Chief of Division